

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. This response is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Status of Claims:

“Withdrawn from consideration” claims 1-15 are currently being canceled, whereby Applicant reserves the right to prosecute those claims in a divisional application.

Claim 16 is currently being amended.

Claims 22-31 are currently being added.

This amendment amends and adds claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After canceling and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 16, 17 and 19-31 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants appreciate the indication in the Quayle Action that claims 16, 17 and 19-21 are allowed. By way of this amendment and reply, claim 16 has been amended to address minor antecedent basis issues found in that claim, whereby the scope of claim 16 is unaffected by these amendments.

New Claims:

New claims 22-31 have been added, whereby claims 22-26 correspond to allowed claims 16, 17 and 19-21 but rewritten as “means plus function” claims, while claims 27-31 correspond to allowed claims 16, 17 and 19-21 but rewritten as method claims. Accordingly, new claims 22-31 are also believed to be in allowable form based on the indications made in the Office Action with respect to claims 16, 17 and 19-21.

Conclusion:

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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